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**2 pp. Official document. Discusses recommendations and decisions of the Joint UN Information Committee (JUNIC)**

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# *Division for Economic and Social Information*

Department of Public Information

Development Information Meeting  
26-28 April 1982  
Palais des Nations  
Geneva, Switzerland

DIM/1982/11/Rev.1  
22 April 1982

## Item 8 of the provisional agenda

### DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

At the last Development Information Meeting in July 1981, a report on Inter-Agency Cooperation in the Field of Development Education was presented under document DIM/1981/11. It was subsequently amended by the JUNIC Working Group on Development Education at its 11th Session in October 1981, the amendments relating mainly to the listings of proposed activities for 1982/83 (see Annex), and submitted to JUNIC at its Ninth Session (19-23 April 1982), together with the Working Group's report on its 11th Session (JUNIC/1982/4).

JUNIC expressed its appreciation of the activities undertaken by the Working Group under the chairmanship of UNICEF, and endorsed its objectives: the need for awareness-raising in the "North", recognition of the central role of non-governmental organizations in development education, the importance of networking and of linkage between community groups in the "North" and those in the "South". While community participation was now generally recognised as essential to successful development efforts in the Third World, there was also a need to actively involve community groups in industrialized societies in the development process.

Non-governmental groups in industrialized countries, often with the support of their governments, had been undertaking development education for many years, and the Working Group had helped to bring the United Nations closer to their concerns, thereby contributing to public perceptions of the UN as an organization willing to work with, and to service, national change agents. Throughout its history, the emphasis of the Working Group had been on servicing those at the national level who were doing the job.

7. *The representative of Unesco advised the Committee that his organization would be unable to associate itself with these conclusions.*

JUNIC considered and endorsed the recommendations of the Working Group on Development Education, as follows:

1. *That development education be recognised as an important programme of the United Nations Development System, requiring regular funding.*
2. *That adequate time be allocated for discussions on development education at all sessions of JUNIC.*
3. *That all agencies designate a development education officer(s).*
4. *That financing of the two United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Services be assured on a permanent basis.*
5. *That the following outline plan of activities for 1982/83 be approved: see Annex.*

JUNIC noted that implementation of certain projects still depended upon additional resources being made available.

The representative of Unesco noted that his Organization's involvement in the plan of activities for 1982/83 was considered as participation in joint development information activities and collaboration with the NGLS.

JUNIC noted that the work of the NGLSs was directly related to the activities of the Working Group on Development Education and to their implementation, and subsequently adopted the following recommendations, designed to ensure a more stable basis for the Services:

1. *JUNIC should continue to give high priority to support of the Services.*
2. *JUNIC members that are donors should ensure payment of their contributions as early as possible in the year.*
3. *Longer-term - at least biennial - commitments should be actively encouraged.*
4. *JUNIC members should support the NGLSs in any direct fundraising approaches they might make to governments or institutions.*
5. *JUNIC members should, where possible, also seek support for the Services from sources other than Information Division budgets within their respective organizations.*